From the Archives of

the Pinkertons.

ATE in the afternoon of Friday,

and started down the busy thorough-

fare for the office of the Adams Ex-

press company, a few blocks distant. They carried between them, each hold-

ing one of the handles, a valise made

of canvas and leather, in which had just been placed, in the presence of

the paying teller, a package containing \$41,000 in greenbacks, to be transmitted to the United States treasury in

Washington for redemption.

Although the messengers—Edward S. Crawford and old "Dominie" Earle

-were among the bank's most trusted employes, their honesty being consid-

ered above suspicion, they were neverthe less followed at a short distance by Bank Detective McDougal, an old-time

police detective, whose snow-white beard and ancient style of dress have long made him a personage of note on

Broadway. Detective McDougal followed the messengers, not because he had any fear they were planning a robbery, but because it is an imperative rule of all great banking institu-

tions that the transfer of large sums of money, even for very short dis-

tances, shall be watched over with the most scrupulous care. Each messenger is supposed to act as a check on his fellow, while the detective walking in

the rear is a check on both. In such cases all three men are armed, and would use their weapons without hesitation should an attack be made upon

May 4, 1888, two messengers left the American Exchange National bank, at the northeast corner of Cedar street and Broadway, New York City,

THE SALT LAKE HERALD.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1905

The American Exchange Bank Robbery.

BY CLEVELAND MOFFET.



The messengers walked on through the hurrying crowd, keeping on the east sidewalk as far as Wall street, where they turned across, and contin-ued their way on the west sidewalk as far as the Adams Express company' building, which stands at 59 Broadway. Having seen them safely inside the building, the detective turned his back to the bank, where his services were required in other matters. Passing down the large room strewn with boxes and packages ready for shipment, the two messengers

turned to the right, and ascended the winding stairs that in those days led to the money department, on the second floor. No one paid much attention to them, as at this busy hour bank messengers were arriving and depart-ing every few minutes. Still, some of the clerks remembered afterward, or thought they did, that the old man. Earle, ascended the stairs more slowly than his more active companion, who went ahead, carrying the valise alone. Both messengers were present at the receiving window of the money department when the package was taken from the valise and handed to the clerk, who gave a receipt for it in the usual form: "Received from the American Exchange bank one packs." marked as containing \$41,000, for traffer to Washington;" or, at least, so as has ever been proved, both messengers were present when the package was handed in.

behind the heavily wired grating along with dozens of others, some of them with dozens of others, some of them tontaining much larger sums. The blerks in the money department of the bank and the express company become so there the bank and the express company become so the bank notes, fortunes done up in the bank notes, fortunes done the bank notes in the the assumption the assumption the assumption the assumption the the will appear the doppear the dollers are the two measures the they were not true implied apparently accollers they were not true implied apparently accollers the mystery had cerband bags, boxes or bundles, that they hink little more of this precious merchandise than they might of so much ouch of the hand, satisfies them that the seals, the wrappings, the labels, the general appearance, of the packiges are correct; and having entered hem over to the express messenger maintained the integrity of its own who is to forward them to their destitation, they think no more about them.

ext company, and so on.

The next morning, when the package on the package read: rom the American Exchange bank vas delivered in Washington, the exerienced treasury clerk who received perceived at once, from the condiion of the package, that something ames W. Hyatt, who also saw some- self was positive that it was genuhing suspicious in the package. Mr. ine.

otified: the Pinkerton agency was no- without detection. John Hoey, -resident of the express sengers, ompany, and to Robert Pinkerton, who examinations; nce was required immediately in New of \$41,000, and said no of \$41,000, and sa

hem duly on the waybills and turned and the express company stoutly

employes. readiness and was lowered to the base-nent, where it was loaded on one of bundles, which are secured with elastic ne company's wagons. The wagon was bands, and then wrapped snugly in driven to Jersey City, guarded strong paper, until the whole makes a the messenger in charge, his assist-nt and the driver, all three men be-Around this package the clerk knots n- armed, and was safely placed strong twine, melts a drop of sealing board the night express for Washing- wax over each knot, and stamps it It is the company's rule that with the bank's seal. The finished messenger who starts with a package thus presents a neat and trim hrough safe travels with it to its appearance. But in the present in-lestination, though he has to make stance the package received at the journey of a thousand miles. Some- treasury was loosely and slovenly imes the destination of money under wrapped, and the seals seemed to have ransfer is so remote that the service been put on either in great haste or express companies is re- by an inexperienced hand. Moreover, juired; and in that case the messenger the label must have been cut from the f the Adams company accompanies stolen package and pasted on the other, he money only to the point where it for the brown paper of a previous delivered to the messenger of the wrapping showed plainly in a margin running around the label. The address

> "\$41,000. "United States Treasurer, 'Washington, "D. C.

All this was printed, except the figras wrong. Employes of the treasury ures "\$41,000," even the dollar sign. epartment seem to gain a new sense, The figures were in the writing of Mr. nd to be able to distinguish bank Watson, the paying teller of the bank, otes from ordinary paper merely by whose business it was to oversee the he "feel," even when done up in bun-les. Looking at the label mark of were also marked on the label, with looked and sealed, according to cus-tom, before its delivery to him, and label mark of looked as silk under-41,000, the clerk shook his head and the date of the sending; so that on alled the United States treasurer, examining the label Mr. Watson him-

ain nothing more valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for brown straw paper, the coarse valuable than slips for the paying lowed to have the key to the safe or the know its combination. Later, as a still further safeguard, the Adams Express company introduced into its cars and equipment of large burglar-proof safes, especially as an equipment of large burglar-proof safes, especially as an out another label, thus lessening the course for the crime, would not have cut the still further safeguard, the Adams Express company introduced into its cars and further watching. His general conduct subsequent to the robbery was an equipment of large burglar-proof safes, especially as a guard against train robbers, who however, such as to convince everyone, found it comparatively easy to break on the safe or the knew to the key to the safe or cided that, in spite of a perfectly self-possessed manner and the good opinion of his employers. Crawford would stand further watching. His general conduct subsequent to the robbery was however, such as to convince everyone, found it comparatively easy to break on the paper of the crime, would not have the key to the safe or cided that, in spite of a perfectly self-possessed manner and the good opinion of his employers. The proof safes, especially as a guard aga Where and by whom had the substitulon been made?

The robbery was discovered at the reasury in Washington on Saturday The robbery was discovered at the reasury in Washington on Saturday forming. The news was telegraphed been reasured in the paying teller's department and its delivery to Domining. The news was telegraphed by New York immediately, and on Saturday in the short this seating the short this seating discovered at the package in the paying teller's was no question of train robbers.

Week after week; they discovered at the same was later, on learning from Guate-nothing. He retained his place in the short this seating discovered at the package in the paying teller's was no question of train robbers.

One important fact stood out plain and uncontrovertible: That a responsible clerk in the money department sentences. rday afternoon anxious councils were a dozen bank employes; so that the of the Adams Express company had before, and living apparently in pereld by the officials of the American work of cutting off the label and past-ixchange bank and the Adams Exing it on the bogus package could contain \$41,000 entrusted to the com-

examinations; but their statements per and not bank notes. In accordeight upon the mystery, ance with their usual police of prompt- he saved the ordinary outlay for lodg-

kept his hold on the value handle all in the express office, the false package, stolen money would be found who is to forward them to their destilation, they think no more about them.

In this instance the \$41,000 package,
lifter a brief delay, was locked in one
of the small portable safes, a score
of in the care of the express company. In considering this possibility it beof unimpeachable life, had suddenly The Pinkerton representations. came necessary to know exactly what had happened to the package from had happened to the package from to be infrequent, and he decided that the moment it was taken through the Earle's was not one of them. Of the after their arrival in Central America, the robbery, Crawford had rented a window of the money department up to the time of its delivery at the treasury. The package was first retreasury. The package was first rebegan a careful study of his record.

Earle's was not one of them. Of the innocence of the other messenger, that the young man had rarely left safety deposit box at a bank in the began a careful study of his record.

Crawford, he was not so sure. He began a careful study of his record. established, since the safe had been extravagance in dress. His salary was ton the following morning by another back further into Crawford's record, representative of the express company. Mr. Pinkerton learned that he had hing suspicious in the package. Mr. line.

All this made it tolerably clear that the accompanies a grown up in the town of Hancock, has small chance of getting inside, and in his presence the package was ended and in his presence the package was opened. It was found to consider that the bank before the package was ended and in nothing more valuable than slips bank clerk would have made up so bank clerk would have made up so lowed to have the key to the safe or the express company. The messenger who accompanies a grown up in the town of Hancock, has small chance of getting inside, not only because of the protecting afterward of perpetrating a fraud upon seal, but also because he is never all insurance company. The messenger who accompanies a grown up in the town of Hancock, has small chance of getting inside, not only because of the protecting afterward of perpetrating a fraud upon bank clerk would have made up so lowed to have the key to the express company. The messenger who accompanies a grown up in the town of Hancock, has small chance of getting inside, has small chance of getting inside,

Inspector Byrnes was scarcely have been accomplished then pany by the bank. This threw the re-akerton agency was no-without detection. pany by the bank. This threw the re-sponsibility on the company, at least voluntarily offered by his friend, the Earle and Crawford, the bank mes- until it could be shown that the pack- young man about town, who invited were submitted to repeated age as delivered contained brown pa- him to live in his own home on Thirty-

gers were present when the package
was handed in.

The two messengers, having performed their duty, went away. Earle hurrying to the ferry to catch a train and Crawford returning to the express company and and Crawford returning to the express messenger—was 'closely and Crawford returning to the empty valise. The valuable backage had meantine been ranged being the heavily wired grating along.

Thus there months went by with no delivered the more about it. But their silence did not mean inactivity. Their instructions their detectives in this case, backage through the window of the express company's money department. Accepting these statements as true, it is departure for Central America, given the more about it. But their silence did not mean inactivity. Their instructions to their detectives in this case, and lisinglification of and his friend became violent in manner, he tective McDougal, the receiving these statements as true, it all similar cases, were to spare neither time nor expense, but to contain the more about it. But their silence did not mean inactivity. Their instructions to their detectives in this case, and sile from the months went by with no ot mean inactivity. Their instructions to their detectives in this case, and sile from the months went by with no then hot mean inactivity. Their instructions to their detectives in the case, so the package through the window of the case, where he lived, and April, 1889, Crawford took had been detected and brought to pundate the months went by with no of the door was open Mr. Pinker-nersult; then four, five, six months; friend became violent in manner, he tective McDougal, the receiving these statements as true, it and when Crawford and his friend became violent in manner, he tective McDougal, the receiving these statements as true, it and when Crawford took and some account-books.

While the door was open Mr. Pinker-nersult; then four, five, six months; and special from the moor expense, but to contain the more about it. But their silence did not mean inact

ceipted for by the head of the money Edward Sturgis Crawford at this time ored servant to stand on guard so that

messenger who accompanied the safe on the wagon to the train, and then on the train to Washington, and then on another wagon to the treasury below to the treasury on another wagon to the treasury below to the treasury be building his innocence seemed clearly less it was indulging a tendency to light through the testimony of one of of such offenses as that which Crawafter the robbery, her nephew had called at her house, and given her a package which he said contained gloves, and which he wished her to keep for him. It was about this time that the papers contained the first news of the robbery, and, her suspicions having been aroused, she picked a hole in the paper covering of the package large enough to let her see that there was money inside. Somewhat disturbed, she took the package to her husband, who opened it and found that it contained \$2,000 in bank claim the package she should refer him Punta Gorda lies near the line septo him, which she did.

> became greatly excited, and told her of Honduras. she had made a dreadful mistake. A Difficulties confronted Mr. Pinkerton stormy scene followed with his from the very start. People were uncle, in which the latter positively dying about him every day of yellow refused to render him the money until fever, and when he started for Punta he was satisfied that Crawford was Gorda on a little steamer, the engineer its rightful possessor. A few days came aboard looking as yellow as saflater Crawford's young friend, the fron, and immediately began to vomit, man about town, called on the uncle, so that he had to be taken ashore.

been substituted for the genuine one either at the bank, between the bank and the express office or between the employ he had been a preacher, and express office and the treasury. The first assumption threw suspicion on some of the bank employes, the second of simplicity and honest dealing.

The chipty he had been a precise, and the money. Mr. Pinkerton, after his ized that he was dealing with a man investigation, was not so sure as some who, if guilty, was a criminal of unpersons were that the package had usual cleverness and cunning. He upon the two bank messengers, the As for Crawford, who was, indeed been stolen by employes of the express arrest would "robably accomplish third upon some one in the service of the express company. Both the bank dominie told the truth, and had really opinion that, in the rush of business There was little likelihood that the the way to the express company's window, his companion, honest or dishondest, would have had no opportunity to est, would have had no opportunity to

The Pinkerton representative em-

ceipted for by the head of the money department, Mr. J. C. Young. Having handed the receipt to the bank mesh manded the receipt to the bank mesh mesh mesh ment of the bank mesh manded the receipt to the bank mesh to carry it on one could go inside.

The following months he made exchanged this box for a larger one. During the following months he made several visits to the box, but for what purpose was not wishing ton, and then placed it in the middle, and altogether was somewhat of a dandy. He had entered that Crawford had told a department, and, altored the bank on the recommendation of a wealthy New Yorker, a young may about town, who, strange to say, had made Crawford's acquaintance, and indeed struck up quite a friend ship with him, while the latter was serving in the humble capacity of conductors on a Broadway car. This was about a year before the time the package of Mr. Pinkerton that the extraord had in the city three marks about a year before the time of the rewarded by the fact that Crawford had in the city three marks about a year before the time of the rewards and the probability of the case was heightened by the fact that Crawford had in the city three marks about a year before the time of the rewards of the package of Mr. Pinkerton that the early part of 1890, when the perstant to stand on guard so that a green one. During the following months he made several visits to the box, but for what purpose was not the box, but for what purpose was not one could go inside.

Nothing more occurred, however, to bush the fellow would come up the following months he made exchanged this box for a larger one. During the following months he made several visits to the box, but for what purpose was not fellow the fellow would come up t ried aunts and several cousins. The reason for Crawford having concealed did not then, as it does now, provide intention of doing it. Nevertheless this fact was presently brought to for the surrender of criminals guilty their relations continued outwardly the aunts, who, having been induced ford was believed to have committed. ed with the hospitality that is usual in to speak, not without difficulty, stated Crawford could be arrested, therefore, tropical countries. He saw no sign of that on Sunday, May 6, 1888, two days only by being gotten into another any disposition on the part of either country by some clever maneuver. The man best capable of carrying out ton himself; and, accordingly, the ex- napping. press company, despite the very conaware that the result must be uncerpersonally in pursuit of Crawford. Mr. Pinkerton arrived at Balize, the 17, 1890, nearly two years after the date of the robbery. There he notes. Realizing the importance of this learned that Crawford's plantation discovery, the husband told his wife was about ninety miles down the that when Crawford came back to coast, a little back of Punta Gorda.

arating British Honduras from Guate-

As the boat steamed slowly into Punta Gorda it passed a small steam craft loaded with bananas. "Look," said one of the passengers to Mr. Pinkerton, not aware of the nature of Mr. Pinkerton's mission, "There goes Crawford's launch now."

Landing at once, the detective waited for the launch to come to shore, which it presently did. The first man to come off was Martin Crawford, whom Mr. Pinkerton recognized from a description, although he had never seen him. Then he saw Edward Crawford step off, dressed smartly in a white helmet hat, a red sash, a fine plaited linen shirt, blue trousers, patent-leather shoes, and so on. Mr. Pinkerton approached and held out his

"I don't remember you," said Craw-ford; but his face went white. "You used to know me in New York when I examined you before the bank officials," said the detective,

Crawford smiled in a sickly way and said: "Oh, yes; I remember you now." Mr. Pinkerton explained that he had traveled 5,000 miles to talk with him about the stolen money package. Crawford expressed willingness to furnish any information he could, and invited Mr. Pinkerton to go up to his plantation, where they could talk the matter over more comfortably. Seeing that his best course was to humer Crawford, Mr. Pinkerton consented, though realizing that he thus put himself in Crawford's power.

They went aboard Crawford's launch and steamed up the river, a very narrow, winding stream, arched quite over through most of its length by the thick tropical foliage, and in some parts so deep that no soundings had yet found bottom. The plantation was entirely inaccessible by land on account of impassable swamps, and the crooked course of the river made it a journey of twenty-three miles from Punta Gorda, although in a straight line it was only six miles

Mr. Pinkerton was surprised at the Mr. Pinkerton was surprised at the unpretentious character of the house, which was built of cane and palm stocks and roofed with palm branches. Originally it had been one large room, but it was now divided by muslin sheeting into two rooms, one at either end, with a hall in the middle. Almost the first thing Mr. Pinkerton noticed on entering was a fireproof safe standing in the hall. It was of medium size and seemed to be new. He knew he was powerless, under the laws of the country, to search the safe, but he made up his mind that while he was in the house he would keep he was in the house he would keep is eyes as much as possible upon it. That night he did not sleep for watch-ing. But Crawford did not go near the safe until the next morning, when

with Crawford, questioning him in the house and never returned. Finally greatest detail as to his connection with the robbery. Crawford persisted in denying that he had had any connection with it, or had any knowledge as to what had become of the stolen balance himself, in payment, one must money. Argue as he would Mr. Pinsuppose, for his silence. At any rate, kerton could not beat down the stub-bornness of his denials. All direct aphe kept \$1,500 and also a receipt in Crawford's handwriting for the \$500 proaches failing, at last he tried indirection. He spoke of Burke, the ab-Other members of the family resconding state treasurer of Louisiana. called the fact that a few days after who, along with a number of other the robbery, Crawford had left in his American lawbreakers, had fled to Cenaunt's store-room a valise, which he had subsequently called for and taken tral . America. "Burke had a level

head, hadn't he?" said he. "How do you mean?" asked Crawford

membered that Crawford on the sec-'Why, in going to Spanish Honduras. ond visit had remained alone in the You know the United States has no exstore-room for quite a time, perhaps tradition treaty there under which we twenty minutes, and after his deparcould bring back a man who has abture they found there a rubber band sconded for embezzlement or grand larceny. Burke is as safe there as if tectives also discovered that on the he owned the whole country."

15th of May, 1888, eleven days after "Is that so?" said Crawford, looking

significantly at his brother Marvin, who was present. "Yes," said Mr. Pinkerton, "it is. I

name of Eugene Holt. On the 18th of only wish the fellow would come up

ford had practically told him to do his pleasant, and Mr. Pinkerton was treatof the Crawfords to do him harm, but he kept his revolvers always ready, such a maneuver was Robert Pinker- and gave them no chance to catch him

Toward evening of the second day siderable expense involved, and fully Crawford and his brother lunch ready, and took Mr. Pinkerton tain, authorized Mr. Pinkerton to go down the river back to Punta Gorda, where they said good-by. At parting Crawford made a brave show of treatcapital of British Honduras, on Feb. ing the whole matter lightly. "I may see you in New York in a couple of months," he said to the detective as they shook hands.

"If you see me in New York," said Mr. Pinkerton, "you will see yourself under arrest."

On landing Mr. Pinkerton proceeded, with all the obviousness possible, to call at the house of the British magistrate, which was so situated that Crawford from the launch could not fail to see him enter. This seems to have confirmed the impression he had been striving to create, that British refuge for a criminal like Crawford, was none. Crawford apparently thoroughly frightened, and thinking be had not an hour to lose, steamed back in all haste to his plantation, gatherin

together, as subsequently app Continued on Page 2